Fall In

AGR Soldiers wanted

The Active Guard and Reserve Program has added approximately 300 new assignment opportunities this year.

Another 975 positions will become available this fiscal year through normal attrition. AGR Soldiers serve in full-time, active-duty positions in worldwide locations.

The program provides AGR Soldiers with the same benefits as their counterparts in the active Army.
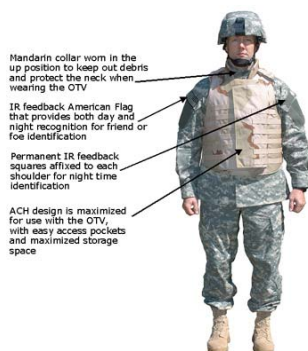
The AGR program is open to Soldiers who serve in the Army Reserve, the Army National Guard and the active Army. To download an application packet, Soldiers can visit the AGR portion of the U.S. Army Human Resources Command Web site at *https://www.2xcitizen.usar.army.mil/ soldierservices/programs/agr/agrprogram.asp* or call (800) 318-5298.

Army to field new uniform

The Army will be fielding a new combat uniform designed by NCOs and tested by Stryker Brigade Soldiers in Iraq since October.
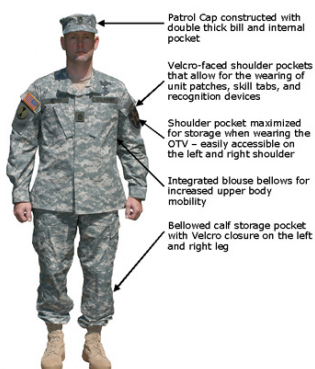
Three different versions of the Army Combat Uniform (ACU) have been developed, and more than 10,000 uniforms were produced and dragged through the sand in Iraq and at Army training centers. Even more are on American production lines to be issued by April 2005 to

Patrol Cap constructed with double thick bill and internal pocket

Velcro-faced shoulder pockets that allow for the wearing of unit patches, skill tabs, and recognition devices

Shoulder pocket maximized for storage when wearing the OTV – easily accessible on the left and right shoulder

Integrated blouse bellows for increased upper body mobility

Bellowed calf storage pocket with Velcro closure on the left and right leg

Soldiers in deploying units. Fielding to the total Army should be complete by December 2007, said officials from the Program Executive

Mandarin collar worn in the up position to keep out debris and protect the neck when wearing the OTV

IR feedback American Flag that provides both day and night recognition for friend or foe identification

Permanent IR feedback squares affixed to each shoulder for night time identification

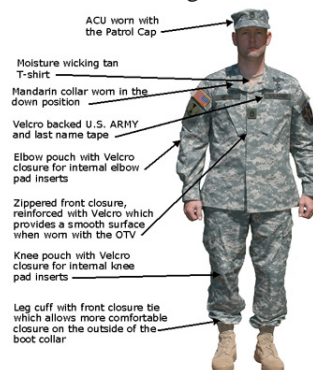ACH design is maximized for use with the OTV, with easy access pockets and maximized storage space

Office, known as PEO Soldier. There were 20 changes made to the uniform, to include removing the color black and adapting the digital print from the Marine Corps uniform to meet the needs of the Army.

The bottom pockets on the jacket were removed and placed on the shoulder sleeves so Soldiers can have access to them while wearing body armor. The pockets were also tilted forward so that they are

easily accessible. Buttons were replaced with zippers that open from the top and bottom to provide comfort while wearing armor.

Patches and tabs are affixed to the uniform with Velcro to give the wearer more flexibility and to save the Soldier money. Soldiers can take the nametapes and patches off their uniforms before laundering, which will

ACU worn with the Patrol Cap

Moisture wicking tan T-shirt

Mandarin collar worn in the down position

Velcro backed U.S. ARMY and last name tape

Elbow pouch with Velcro closure for internal elbow pad inserts

Zippered front closure, reinforced with Velcro which provides a smooth surface when worn with the OTV

Knee pouch with Velcro closure for internal knee pad inserts

Leg cuff with front closure tie which allows more comfortable closure on the outside of the boot collar

add to the lifecycle of the patches.

The ACU will consist of a jacket, trousers, moisture

ACU worn with the black Beret and pin on skill badges

Velcro backed rank insignia

Tilted chest pockets with Velcro closure, optimized for use with the front opening OTV

3 slot pen pocket for easy access, optimized for use with the OTV

Velcro sleeve cuff closure which provides positive closure for all sizes

Forward tilted cargo pocket for easy access whether sitting, kneeling, or standing – incorporated elastic drawstring for positive closure during movement

Combat Boot hot weather, or Combat Boot temperate weather

wicking t-shirt and the brown combat boots.

It will replace both versions of the BDU and the desert camouflage uniform.

The black beret will be the normal headgear for the ACU, but there is a matching patrol cap to be worn at the commander's discretion.

At $88 per uniform, about $30 more than the BDU, Soldiers will eventually reap gains in money and time by not having to take uniforms to the cleaners or shine boots.

Korean Defense Service Medal

Congress has authorized the Korean Defense Service Medal. Soldiers who served in Korea from July 28, 1954 to a future undetermined date are eligible. The medal became available in June. Soldiers currently on active duty will receive the medal via their units. Those retired or out of the service may apply by contacting their former service branches.

To qualify for the medal, Soldiers must have served in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. Soldiers must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in the area of eligibility and have been physically deployed in the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days. Only one award of the medal is authorized for any individual. For more information and a complete list of eligibility criteria, go to *https://www.perscom online.army.mil/tagd/awards/KDSM_feb04.doc*.